REFERENCE

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COLLECTIONS

The Weather for the Year 1893.

MONTHS.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Clear,	Cloudy,	Rain or Snow,	Rain Fall,
January, ...	RS	S	S	S	S	S	S	C	S	C	S	S	C	S	C	C	S	S	S	C	O	S	S	C	C	C	R	RS	R	S	C	1	10	20	2.05
February, . . .	R	R	R	O	C	RS	S	O	S	R	C	C	RS	R	C	C	S	S	S	O	S	S	C	C	S	O	C	RS				4	8	16	4.66
March, ...	C	O	RS	S	C	C	C	R	R	R	R	C	C	R	S	C	C	C	C	RS	R	RS	R	R	C	C	C	O	O	R	C	3	14	14	1.97
April, ...	R	O	C	R	R	C	RS	R	C	R	C	R	R	R	R	C	R	C	R	R	R	R	R	O	R	R	R	C	R	R		2	7	21	3.67
May, ...	R	C	R	R	R	C	C	C	O	O	O	O	R	C	R	R	R	R	O	R	R	O	R	O	O	R	R	R	R	C	C	8	7	16	5.32
June, ...	R	R	R	R	C	R	C	O	O	C	R	O	C	C	R	R	R	O	O	O	R	R	O	C	R	R	R	C	R	C		7	8	15	2.46
July, ...	C	R	C	C	R	R	R	R	C	O	O	C	R	C	R	C	R	R	O	C	C	C	R	O	C	R	O	C	R	O	R	6	12	13	1.92
August, ...	C	O	O	R	O	R	C	C	O	O	C	R	C	C	O	C	R	C	R	C	C	C	R	R	R	C	C	R	C	O	C	7	15	9	3.69
September, . .	R	C	O	R	R	R	R	C	C	C	C	R	R	R	R	R	O	C	R	C	O	C	R	C	R	S	C	C	C	C		3	13	14	1.74
October, ...	O	O	O	R	C	R	O	C	O	O	O	C	R	R	RS	C	C	O	C	C	R	R	R	C	C	C	R	R	C	C	O	9	12	10	3.25
November, . . .	C	C	R	R	C	C	C	R	C	O	O	C	R	RS	RS	C	R	R	C	C	RS	C	C	S	C	O	R	C	C	R		3	15	12	2.54
December, . . .	R	S	RS	S	S	C	C	C	R	C	C	O	C	RS	R	C	C	S	S	O	C	R	R	C	C	O	O	R	R	RS	S	4	11	16	1.91
																																57	132	176	35.18

TOTAL DAYS AND RAIN FALL.

O—Clear.
C—Cloudy.
R—Rain.
S—Snow.

FIRST APPEARANCE

Of Flickers, Jan. 24,
Robins, " 31,
Shadflies, Mar. 3,
Black Birds, " 8,
Black Birds with Red Wings, March 13.
Song Sparrows, Mar. 13.
Blue Birds, " 14,
Pe Wit, " 22,
Ground Thrush, " 31,
Bees, April 2,
Martins, April 19.
Yellow Birds, May 5.
Salad Birds, " 7,
Wood Peckers, " 7.
Butterflies, " 12,
Caterpillar and Spider seen on Christmas.

Swallows began meeting prior to going south, July 24. One week earlier than last year. Final gathering Aug. 14, 1893.

	TEMPERATURE.	BAROMETER.	RIVER.
Highest,	96°, June 20.	30.78, Dec. 14.	15. ft. May 5.
Lowest.	Zero, January 16.	28.97, Oct. 13	6 in. (?) Aug. 1.
Mean for the year, 53.9°.			Ice bound 40 days.

Prevailing direction of the wind, W. N. W.

Snow-fall, 51 days—32½ in.

Compliments of *William A. Kelker,* Harrisburgh, Penna.

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THE REPUBLICAN.

THURSDAY, NOV. 29, 1888.

Two histories of Columbia county have been written, and in neither of them have the facts pertaining to the somewhat noted "Fishingcreek Confederacy" been impartially treated. The earlier volume is a special plea intended to indirectly defend the course of the author in that period. It was sufficient for his purpose, if not necessary, that an *ex parte* exhibition of the facts be made. In the later volume, as set forth in the preface, "the publishers have deemed best to exclude" certain of the facts. This persistent effort to suppress evidence has given rise to a vigorous protest, and has led to the publication of the following chapter of our county's history.

THE SITUATION IN 1860–1.

The success of the republican party in the campaign of 1860 was a startling eruption in the history of the nation. This was especially true to this community where the overwhelming power of the long dominant party had blinded its partisans to the portentous tendencies which had long forshadowed momentous results. With the restricted means of ascertaining the drift of national sentiment, it was believed here that the new party constituted only a feeble faction, and when the division of the great dominant party allowed the minority of the people to elect a president, it was thoughtlessly considered a miscarriage of national institutions.

The principles of the successful party were especially repugnant to the majority. Long trained in the strict constructionists school of politics, they felt that the challenge of the privilege of extending slavery was unconstitutional and revolutionary, and while they opposed the whigs upon questions of policy, they opposed the free-soil and republican parties as a question of principle. There were few supporters of Douglas or Bell in the county, and the severe criticism of Buchanan by the successful republicans tended to sharply draw the lines which divided political parties. The partisan discussions which ensued were characterized by a bitterness hitherto unknown. There were a few of the democratic party, however, who took a less uncompromising view of the situation. Such persons urged that inasmuch as the republicans had succeeded in the election they were entitled to a respectful support until the new administration should at least outline its policy.

It was in this general attitude that the fatal April 12, 1861, found the people of Columbia county. The news of the attack on Fort Sumpter thrilled our people with a new sensation. The rashness of the southern malcontents had introduced a new element into the discussion. The latent spirit of patriotism sprang into a sudden life and caused every heart to throb with quicker and heavier pulsations. The whole population instinctively resented the insult offered to the national sovereignty, and not a whisper of submission to the murderous onslaught was anywhere heard. Every man said it was treasonable rebellion and must be put down without parley.

While there was little of the purely martial spirit to take fire from the excitement of the hour, there was no lack of loyal enthusiasm, and Columbia county recruits were among the first to tender their services to the governor. The people with deliberate consideration reached the decision of what their patriotic duty demanded, and did it without rashness and without hesitation. One man, too old to take the field, who had shared in the general bitter feeling excited by the radical views of the republican party, learned of the enlistment of a son absent from home at the same time that he heard of the fall of Sumpter. His response was: "I am glad ——— has enlisted; if I was young enough I would enlist too." This was the general sentiment, and so "company after company marched to the front."

Three months, however, served to effect a marked change in the general sentiment of the county. The danger had grown less imminent. The struggle promised to be a prolonged and determined one. The constitutional sophist had aroused from his first amazement and gained the ear of the people, and the loyal outbursts suffered a painful reaction. The legality of coercion began to be questioned and

the voice of those who advocated peace at any price began to be heeded. Many were glad to place the responsibility of the conflict upon the new party whose accession to power the south had accepted as a menace to their institutions, and party loyalty reasserted itself with intensified feeling. The question recurred again and again, "if the republicans crush the rebellion, what will the end be?" What answer each one gave to this pregnant question is not material, but the result was, that he who went out in April with the Godspeed of all, found in June a division of sentiment that bewildered him. As early as the first battle of Bull Run, men were found in the county who rejoiced in the defeat of the union arms, but so long as the quota was filled by volunteering, opposition was confined to the expression of unfriendly sentiments.

Although greatly in the minority in the county, the republicans felt that they were in the majority on the larger field of action, and abated not a jot of their "certain inalienable rights." They insisted that it was a war of the nation, that Pennsylvania had freely and legally given its support to the national cause, and that on the same princple of state sovereignty that their opponents conceded to the seceding states, every citizen of this state was bound to obey its mandates. The opposition with assured local power, felt less inclined to support their position by argument, but so far as they did it was based upon a confusion of the broadest and the narrowest principles. Aside from broad constitutional grounds, they assumed that the conflict was a "negro war" which the republicans were trying to force their opponents to support. In such a controversy there was no common ground on which the two parties could harmonize. Their divergence only increased with progress, and their mutual antagonism became so far exasperated as to pass beyond peaceful limits.

An incident will illustrate this. In the latter part of July in 1862, a "war meeting" was held at the court house which requested the county commissioners to grant a bounty to each soldier that had enlisted from the county. Only two of these officials were present and they very reasonably declined to assume the responsibility of such action until assured of the approval of the county at large, and of their legal authority to do so. They advised the calling of another meeting to consider the question, however, and early in August this meeting was held. The commissioners met in the middle of the day. In the meantime another call for troops had greatly increased the number to whom bounties would have to be paid; there was a difference of opinion on the subject throughout the county, and professing to be still in doubt as to their authority, the commissioners refused to act. Their decision was received by the members of the "war meeting," held in the morning, with indignation and another session was held in the afternoon at which the action of the commissioners was vehemently denounced.

The matter had attracted many to Bloomsburg. Partisan feeling ran high, and in this situation of affairs it needed but a trifle to precipitate rash action. This trifle was supplied by persons who had no connection with the meeting. A stout active fellow from the country, whose good sense had been somewhat obscured by liquor, approached a convalescent soldier who could barely walk with a cane, and roughly accosted him. Offensive language ensued, and the drunken man, regardless of the defenseless character of his opponent, was about to strike him when a friend interfered with, perhaps, unnecessary demonstration. Others interposed and the matter would ordinarily have ended here. But at that moment the "indignation meeting" closed its session, and those who had been in attendance streamed along in time to gain some knowledge of the difficulty. In a spirit of bravado, the drunken fellow cheered for "Jeff Davis," and a thoughtless crowd of irritated men and boys pursued him to force him to recant. In the course of the chase the fugitive was pelted with mal-odorous eggs, and eventually captured, when he was forced to expiate his offense by cheering for Lincoln. A reprisal was at once instituted by those who sympathized with the political faith of the originator of the disturbance. Some dozen or more republicans, some of whom were in no way connected with the affair, save as

accidental observers of the beginning, were arrested on a charge of riot under a warrant issued by a justice of the peace in Hemlock township. Thither the accused were taken for a hearing and bound over for trial. In the state of feeling then prevalent a fair hearing was impossible. The prosecution was undoubtedly vindictive and unfounded in fact, and should have been dismissed by the grand jury. The trial was had, the accused were convicted, and sentenced by the court to a fine and imprisonment. No attempt was made to enforce the penalty, however, and the governor's pardon put an end to the matter.

THE ENROLLMENT OF 1862.

The effect of these transactions upon those whose knowledge of the facts was gained only through reports inevitably exaggerated, was to intensify the antagonism already existing, and there was unfortunately, none in a position to command the attention of the majority, who would rise to the importance of the occasion and command moderation. The leaders had resigned their responsibilities, and by censorious criticisms augmented the agitation they affected to deplore. The enrollment which was ordered in this year found a large portion of the people, therefore, in practical resistance to the law. The assessors were appointed to do this work, but many refused to accept the service, and those who did accept were ostracised by their political associates. The work proceeded, however.

In devising the vast machinery to meet the novel exigencies growing out of the war, it would have been passing strange if gross errors had not occurred, and grave injustice been done to many. Communities, the most enthusiastic in the support of the national cause suffered greatly from inacurate enrollments which were corrected only after tedious delays, and Columbia county suffered in this respect with many others. A part of the injustice experienced here is justly attributed to the unfriendly action of a portion of the people, and if, as it is said, "the young and the old, the maimed and the dead," were found in the enrollment, the greater part of responsibility for such a condition of affairs must be laid upon those who placed every obstacle in way of officers in the performance of their legal duties. But adjustments were made here as elsewhere.

The draft ordered in this year met with no serious opposition in Columbia county. It was for home protection, the service was not for a protracted term, and hostile sentiment had not yet developed into determined resistance. Indeed, as stated elsewhere, "it had the effect of stimulating enlistments in the national service." When many found it necessary to enter the military service at all, they preferred to avail themselves of the advantages to be derived from such enlistments. But the first draft on the part of the general government was not received with equal unconcern. This occurred on the 17th of September, 1863.

THE OPPOSITION IN 1863.

There were several causes which contributed to strengthen the sentiment in the county which opposed the prosecution of the war. The general education and information on public affairs in those parts of the county, remote from the villages, were far more restricted than now, and the people were rather more in the habit of accepting the opinions of trusted leaders than of thinking for themselves. The more liberal bounties offered in other parts of the state, attracted those of the county most available, to fill quotas elsewhere, and thus added to the difficulty of securing substitutes here. At the same time this class of people observed no decisive indications that the national forces were likely to succeed in the struggle. They reasoned that whether secession was right or wrong, the question had been remitted for decision to the arbitrament of might; that the secessionists were fighting for a principle held as tenaciously as life; and that, if their leaders were to be credited, a sufficient element to act authoritively would interpose to effect a restoration of the "union as it was."

It is not surprising that with their political training and under such circumstances, many should conclude, "if we must fight we will fight on the other side." With him the thoughtless and exaggerated statements carelessly or viciously dropped by local leaders, made assurance doubly sure, and the

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determination was gradually formed in some parts of the county to evade the mandates of the law. To carry out this purpose, some of the officers appointed to serve notices upon drafted men were induced to decline the service, and others it was sought to intimidate. Incendiary fires were remarkably numerous, and in almost every case those who were willing to serve the provost-marshal were the sufferers. These occurrences were never judicially inquired into, but such was the general belief that an unusual light against the background of the sky was taken as a sure token of vengeance inflicted upon some outspoken sympathizer with the national cause. Gentlemen whose family or personal relations were such as to induce their friends to place personal above party loyalty, were frequently apprised of the danger in which their property stood, and such instances occurred even in Bloomsburg.

When these measures failed anonymous warnings against the life of obnoxious persons were sent, and in two cases an ominous admonition in the shape of a coffin was left at their doors. What the character of these letters was may be inferred with one left with a coffin at the door of a citizen who had recently lost a child by death.

Kind sir as you are turned a traitor to the partie to wich you once belonged —— in wich you sbared largely ——but now feel disposed to use all the means to drag your fellow mortols & Neighbors to the place of sloughter for an inferior race of beings, and as you are using all the foul deception towards your neighbors——now sir as your principles are of such venom, and good order in a neighborhood, we Caul upon you to take notice——as Divine Providence is Removing from your Circle, your off-prings to wich none Can be tanted with your principles——who leaves you for another world——we feel to give you strick notice that this coffin is your sollum warning that you too may leave shortly to meet your off-springs in the eternal world, thare ware you will have Justice done you ——for your hypocracy here. You have done that. in which you ought not to have done. If you feel disposed to instermentally in dragging your Neighbors to death, and to leave their beloved wife and Children Relations you must share with the same fate. *Rest assured*, sir there is even good sense, wich ought to teach you Better. But if nothing will stop your wild career, you must be——look out dear soul.

THE DESPERATION IN 1864.

The announcement of the draft in 1864, and the preparatory enrollment for it increased the agitation. In the spring of this year the enrolling officer in Mifflin township was compelled by threats against his life to abandon his work. He left the place to return a few days later accompanied by twenty-two of the Invalid Corps. Escorted by two or three of this detachment, he renewed his labors and proceeded without serious interruption until one Saturday night. On this occasion, as he was returning from the western end of the township to Mifflinville, his party was fired on from ambush near where Schweppenhiser & Snyder's store now stands. The enrolling party turned to defend themselves when a woman interposed her person to protect the assailants. Such a defense left nothing for the assailed party but to continue their journey.

A company of "Home Guards" had been previously organized in the township, and on Sunday morning signal guns could be heard along the base of the mountain evidently calling these martial spirits together. In due time, this company, reinforced by sympathizers from Beaver Valley and elsewhere, approached the village to the number of about one hundred men. A messenger was then dispatched to the commander of the detachment, with the announcement that he would be allowed fifteen minutes to peacefully remove his force north of the river. If this was not done the "guards" would drive them into the river and burn the residences of several of the prominent supporters of the national cause in the village. Warning was also conveyed to the hotel keeper that if he continued to harbor the troops his buildings would be burned, and he added his entreaties to the threats of the armed body. The detachment thus beset quietly withdrew to a defensible place on the river, encamped and threw out guards to prevent a surprise. A few hours later, another messenger brought a second demand for the withdrawal of the troops, but the determined bearing of the little body of "Invalids" caused the bold "guards" to defer the task of driving them across the Susquehanna. On Monday the

little detachment was reinforced by fifty men of the same corps, when the leader of the "guard," proposed a conference, at which it was agreed to allow a citizen of the village to proceed with the enrollment unmolested, and this was done.

THE "FISHINGCREEK CONFEDERACY."

Similar companies were formed in Benton and Fishingcreek townships, but they did not figure offensively as an organization in the history of this period. There was vague talk in these and neighboring localities, that there were places in the North mountain where a hundred men could successfully defy a thousand, and indefinite references to "the fort" where a stand would be made against any attempt to enforce the draft. This was undoubtedly the gasconade of cowards. No such stand was ever made, and it is certain that if any such defiance had ever been offered these men would have been the last to support it. But it is equally certain that they nevertheless imposed upon the fears of their less warlike neighbors. Between the coward and the tyrant there is only the single barrier of moral restraint, and this for a time was broken down. It is impossible for an impartial investigator to avoid the conclusion that in many isolated cases and neighborhoods there was a genuine reign of terror.

There was a considerable number of drafted men who refused to report for duty, and they with their friends constituted the dominant element in the townships of Fishingcreek, Benton, Sugarloaf, Jackson, Pine and the neighboring portions of Luzerne and Sullivan counties. In their ignorance they felt secure against any power with which they were acquainted, and their neighbors no better informed bowed to the "verdict of the vicinage." A remarkable system of signals and picketing was instituted, and so vigorously enforced that none from without came to the region unnoted. A humorous incident of this period illustrates this feature of the "famed "Confederacy." A young man from another part of the county was paying his devoirs to a young lady in the guarded region. One evening he rode to her residence intent upon one of his stated visits. His approach to the picket line was noted and challenged, and although counted one of the faithful, such was the suspicious jealousy of the pickets that a guard was appointed to accompany him to his destination. The house was closely watched during his stay, and on his return he was again escorted beyond the lines. Another incident of the picket line is related to the effect that one night Elford Preston, a resident then of this region, was on his way to a neighbor's when he was suddenly challenged out of the darkness. The ominous click of a gun enforced the order and Preston halted. "Give the password!" cried the sentry. The challenged traveler declined to give it aloud but agreed to whisper it in the picket's ear. The unsophisticated sentry approached and placed himself in a listening attitude, when to his utter "demoralization" he received not the password but Preston's fist on his ear. When he had sorted himself and gun from the dirt in the wayside ditch, he appeared more chagrined over his exhibition of unsoldierly qualities than resentful of the attack and exacted from his neighbor, whom he now recognized, a promise that he would not tell of the adventure. This promise was faithfully kept until after the sentry's death years afterward.

In the meantime, a series of half-open half secret meetings were held by the disaffected for the purpose of discussing the situation and devising the safest means to obviate the difficulties which appeared to be daily growing more serious. There was no unanimity in the choice of measures. The better informed declared that they were too weak to withstand the military power, and suggested a more specific course. Some advocated hiding, others proposed the raising of money to procure substitutes, and each finally acted individually upon his own suggestions. In the whole matter there was a conspicuous lack of a leader who possessed a wisdom to guide their valor to active safety.

These meetings have been the subject of official inquiry for the purpose of establishing their character under the law. The present inquiry has no such object. In the trials had the verdict in the case presented was practically guilty, but not proven, and this

conclusion is probably confirmed by the judgement of all those who were in a position to know the facts. There was no regularly organized representation of the "Knights of the Golden Circle," but there were evidences which indicated that some of the people had friendly information of the plans of organization adopted by that order, and that they have received more or less instruction in its procedure and methods with a view of establishing here an affiliating organization. That the matter proceeded no further than this may be attributed to a variety of causes, either of which or all may have operated to thwart the movement. The persons interested were unfamiliar with the character of the duties imposed; they lacked the necessary diplomatic skill and executive ability necessary to establish the nucleus of the order; and a sober second thought decided them to decline the risk of such an undertaking. There is no doubt that the subject was seriously considered, and that it became widely known among the less judicious of its sympathizers. Several organizations in the county were dubbed by its members a "Circle," but whether such a society was regularly organized is yet an unsettled question.

MILITARY INTERFERENCE.

It was the inevitable result of such a course that the now reckless of their number should exceed all prudent limits. Men became accustomed to carrying arms for offensive purposes, and familiarized their minds with thoughts of unlawful violence. It followed in natural sequence that this class indulged in high-handed outrages that barely escaped their legitimate outcome of murder. Some of the less reckless arranged hiding places under their houses, accessible only through trap-doors in the floor, and others repaired to places in the hills during the night, to stealthily return in the morning. Even the women assumed a war-like attitude, and officers serving notices of draft were confronted with butcher knives brandished in the hands of the "weaker vessel."

Such a condition of affairs could not long escape the notice of the general authority, and officers were accordingly sent out to arrest the delinquents. Early in August of 1864, Lieutenant Robinson, with a squad of eight men, was sent to arrest certain non-reporting conscripts in Benton township. Their presence in the neighborhood was announced by signal guns fired by those on guard. Persons subject to arrest were accordingly warned of their danger. Robison's party reached the cross roads, now known as Raven's Creek post-office, about ten o'clock at night. The house, which was the object of their visit was close at hand. As they approached certain men were observed to leave the house and strike across the point of land to reach the other road. The officer and his escort accordingly retraced their steps, and took up a position near the fence in position to meet the other party. As they approached Lieutenant Robison stepped out and challenged them. There was no parley, but bringing down the guns they carried, the challenged party quickly responded with a volley, fatally wounding the gallant officer. His escort was taken entirely by surprise, as they anticipated no resistance, and in the confusion the murderers escaped. The wounded man was taken to Peter Laubach's near by, where his injuries were dressed. He was subsequently removed to the residence of A. N. Harvey, on Huntingdon Creek, where he died some six weeks later.

A man by the name of Smith was arrested for the deed, but was never tried, and no action has ever been taken by the county in the matter. It was accepted, however, as a climax to the unlawful proceedings which had prevailed in this region for months, and gave a certain confirmation to the exaggerated reports which found their way to the more settled portions of the county. It was this that moved Robert F. Clark to make earnest representations of the condition of affairs he believed to exist in the upper Fishingcreek Valley, to the governor. The state authorities took prompt action in the matter, and while Mr Clark's action subsequently received the support of every sympathizer with the national cause, there were scarcely a half dozen persons in the county who knew of the contemplated movement before the arrival of troops in Bloomsburg.

The first detachment arrived in the village on Saturday evening, August 13, 1864, and went into camp on the Fair grounds. This force was increased subsequently until the command aggregated some thousand men. The meaning of this unusual presence of troops needed no explanation to any citizen, and unobtrusive tokens of excitement could be observed through the county. When the news reached the disaffected region there was "mounting in hot haste." Representatives from that region came to Bloomsburg to confer with friends as to what was best to be done under the changed aspect of affairs, while more than one man left for parts unknown.

On the 16th instant, the commanding general of the department, Major General Couch, arrived in Bloomsburg and on the same day conferred with the leading men of both parties. He had come to the county with very serious apprehensions of the nature of the trouble in the upper townships, but he was assured by prominent gentlemen of the democratic party that he had greatly misapprehended the situation; that there was no fort; that there would be no resistance; and that ten men could arrest the delinquent conscripts as safely as ten hundred. Acting upon this assurance, the general prepared a conciliating message to the non-reporting drafted men, and finally succeeded in overcoming the extreme reluctance of Mr. J. G. Freeze to bear it to its proper destination. What the exact result of Mr. Freeze's mission was, does not appear, but it did not bring in the persons summoned, and on Sunday, 20th, of August, a body of troops under the command of Stewart proceeded te Benton.

Those who had been most enthusiastic in advocating resistance at once took a more pacific view of the matter. Advised by sober counsel, they sought to demonstrate the inaccuracy of the reports which had brought the troops hither, by proffering every courtesy in their power, contributing delicacies to the soldiers' fare, and exhibiting a friendly disposition in their intercourse. In all this, however, it was difficult to suddenly unlearn old habits of thought and expression, and these people repeatedly betrayed their motives by unguarded talk. A week elapsed before any decisive action was taken, but on the night of the 30th about one hundred arrests were made and the prisoners brought to a meeting house near Benton. Here a preliminary examination was made and forty-four of the prisoners taken to Harrisburg. Other arrests were made from time to time as late as October. Some of these were clearly unwarranted, and the persons thus apprehended were promptly released on demand.

The immediate result of this raid was to quiet all talk of resistance, and to end the unlawful proceedings which had become too much a matter of course for months previous. The victims of military interference were for a time represented by politicians as martyrs to the sacred cause of liberty;——victims of a malicious persecution, instigated by political opponents, and aided and abetted by a despotic government. It is needless to add, that increasing intelligence and an improved perspective has set this view aside as the convalescing symptoms of demagogic exaggeration, which for a time possessed certain of the people.

The real evils of the case lose dginity and significance by such exaggerations. It is idle to consider whether a great government deeply absorbed i a stupendous life struggle, turned asid part of its armed force to attack a loya community at the persuasion of a half-dozen of its political supporters. Nor was it malicious persecution. The chief instigator of the movement, very soon afterward, was in harmonious political affiliation with these victims and remained so to the day of his death. But it was none the less an evil;——one that was natural, and all but inevitable in the condition of things. A formidable number of men had entered into some sort of combination with the avowed purpose of resisting the prosecution of law; they did exercise unlawful restraint upon the public use of the highways; they did use menaces and threats against officers in the proper discharge of their duties; they did disturb the peace and quiet of neighbors who did not sympathize with them; and this combination and state of affairs did result in the murder of an officer in the regular discharge of his official duties.

The redress for these evils, however, ought undoubtedly to have been sought in the law. As the court said in the Milligan case, "The power of punishment is alone through the means which the laws have provided for that purpose, and if they are ineffectual there is an immunity from punishment, no matter how great an offender the individual may be, or how much his crimes may shock the sense of justice of the country, or endanger its safety." There is no evidence, however, that those charged with protecting the public under the law ever invoked its aid. The condition of affairs were long known to the authorities. It is probably true that the sheriff could have "executed peaceably any warrant or writ whatever in the county"; and it is believed that a single decisive word from those to whom the disturbers of the peace naturally looked for direction, would have obviated all the subsequent evils. It will, therefore, remain to all time a subject of reproach to those in power that none of these means were employed, and that the foolhardiness of the ignorant was permitted to betray so many innocent ones into serious difficulties.

It would be folly, on the other hand, to deny the rashness which suggested military interference, but the circumstances go far in palliating the offense. Antagonisms had so far unfortunately developed in the community at large, that men did not, perhaps could not, reason calmly. The rumors of unlawful combination and extraordinary preparation for hostilities had ample circumstantial confirmation. Many suffered at the hands of the mob spirit invoked, and many more feared its power. The wildest rumors were eventually believed, and men of good character, of prominence, and legal ability in the community believed that none save the military power could cope with the evil. The spirit of the times was doubtless conducive to the conclusion. Men had become familiar with military operations, and did not stop to consider whether this was an appropriate field for the employment of armed force. But when the detachment had come, and the commander had examined the situation for himself, further responsibility rested with him.

An unkind fate seemed to direct the whole matter. The duties of neither Generals Couch nor Cadwaliader permitted their remaining here to direct the operations of the troops, and in the hands of their subordinates arbitrary power was employed for unworthy ends. The evidence at hand is entirely *ex parte* and may do these subordinates injustice, but if true it leaves no reasonable doubt that the dangerous power placed in the hands of irresponsible men was exercised in a vindictive manner and to the prejudice of justice. Morally, the political majority must be held responsible for the outrages that made the raid and its evils possible and probably by the same rule none of those arrested could truthfully plead not guilty. But legally,—and "it is the birth-right of every American citizen when charged with crime, to be tried and punished according to law,"—it was only by the most strained construction of any law that the officers could find a shadow of warrant for their least objectionable conduct. and the evidence seems to indicate that some of them perpetrated outrages scarcely less criminal than highway robbery.

Of the convictions before the military commission, all that is held by the supporters of the national cause is expressed in the decision of the United States Supreme Court on the case of Milligan, as follows: "It is proper to say, although Milligan's trial and conviction by a military commission was illegal, yet, if guilty of the crimes imputed to him and his guilt had been ascertained by an established court and impartial jury he deserved severe punishment. Open resistance to the measures deemed necessary to subdue a great rebellion, by those who enjoy the protection of government, and have not the excuse even of prejudice of section to plead in their favor, is wicked; but that resistance becomes an enormous crime when it assumes the form of a secret political organization armed to oppose the laws, and seeks by stealthy means to introduce the enemies of the country into peaceful communities, there to light the torch of civil war, and thus overthrow the power of the United States. Conspiracies like these at such a juncture, are extremely perilous, and those concerned in them are dangerous enemies to their

country, and should receive the heaviest penalties of the law, as an example to deter others from similar criminal conduct."

Gazette & Bulletin.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1889.

MOSES VAN CAMPEN.

Execution of a Fine Crayon Portrait of the Veteran.

From the Hazleton Plain Speaker.

On Monday evening last, Camp 90 of P. O. S. of A. of this place, was the recipient of an elegant life size crayon portrait of Major Moses Van Campen. The presentation speech was delivered by Dr. Harry Casselberry who recounted the many hair breadth escapes, privations and captivities suffered by him on the North and West Branches of the Susquehanna in the days of '76 when that stream was one frontier exposed to all the savage cruelty of the powerful Six Nations. The address was intensely interesting, and was replied to by a speech on the part of the camp by J. W. Margworth. These speeches recounted much of the history of this revolutionary soldier and Indian fighter, and it is remarkable that a good likeness of him has been preserved and one that the very few persons now living, who saw the Major say it is very good. He lived to the age of 93 years and died at Angelica in the State of New York. During the revolutionary war, he made his home on Fishing Creek in Columbia County, where he and his compatriot Captain Joseph Solmon fought Indians. Captain Solmon lived and died near the present town of Lightstreet, and was the grandfather of our townsman Joseph P. Solmon. Moses married a Miss McClure, who, at one time, owned a large portion of the land on which the present town of Bloomsburg now stands. Moses' father, brother and uncle were slain near where the town of Orangeville now stands, and at the same time Moses was taken prisoner and with others made a most remarkable escape at Wysox. The camp was most intensely interested in the thrilling speeches, as well as in the portrait of the old hero. The picture was executed by our young townsman C. Willard Hill, son of C. F. Hill, and was presented by him. It is very life like and the workmanship speaks well for our young friend and needs only to be seen to be appreciated. The camp tendered him a vote of thanks.

From, Democratic Standard
Bloomsburg Pa
Date, Aug 16/95

More Old History for the Young.

Looking back fifty-two years this month, I find myself entering Bloomsburg by the old wagon road from Catawissa by the way of Barton's mill, as there was no way opened then to cross the creek only by Hemlock bridge and the double bridge near Dr. Lazarus'. The old wagon road came into town along the creek to the Gigger ice house, where the Reiswicks were building boats at that time, then up the alley and up the hill to Main Street to about where Stephen Knorr's blacksmith shop now is. A few years after Dr. Scott purchased a lot from the Barton estate and built the brick house now owned by Samuel Gigger. After that the new road and street was opened and the old road vacated. That was the beginning of Scott Town, or West Bloomsburg, as it is now marked. Previous to that Dr. Scott had his office and lived in a small frame building where H. J. Clark & Son's large dry goods store is.

Next I find myself behind the counter of Eyer & Hefley, who kept a general dry goods and grocery store. In looking around the town, I was impressed by its "greatness" with about 600 to 800 inhabitants. It was soon noised around that Eyer & Hefley had imported a young clerk from Catawissa with a corduroy suit on. In these days, with the increased population of Bloomsburg, a young man can be employed in a store or office for months before the "town" will recognize the fact. About the first thing that attracted my attention upon entering the store was the old familiar bottle upon the counter with old "rye" fresh from Benfield's distillery, with a tumbler at its side; it was free to all the customers. If a lady wished something I was sent down cellar to get a glass of "wine." There were more barrels of whiskey, gin, rum, brandy and wine

than there were of sugar and syrup. The store-keeper who did not have a free glass could do but small business. There were five stores in the place: John Barton's where now J. W. Eyer's store is; George Weaver, in a small frame store room where Jacobs' bakery now is; Eyer & Hefley, where I am writing this; Wm. McKelvy & Co., where Pursel & Harman's store is; Rupert & Barton, in the "Arcade" where J. K. Lockard's building is. John Barton and Rupert & Barton were closing out so that there were only three active stores. McKelvy's was the leading store as it had been for years. They having moved into the new building and was heavily engaged in the lumber and grain trade, also mining and shipping of ore from the "Red Mill" farm to different furnaces. Their storehouse at the canal (still standing) was always filled with wheat ready for loading in boats to be shipped to Philadelphia.

The principal part that a green clerk was expected to perform was the counting of lumber. measuring of grain, weighing of butter, counting of eggs, &c. Eggs were 6c a dozen and butter 8c per pound. The lumber either came by wagon or raft from up the creek. When a wagon load came, rain or shine, I was the one to go down to the lumber yard. where now stands the old Presbyterian church and I. W. McKelvy's house. If a raft landed, I would sit on the bank of the creek and as the boards were drawn out keep the account. It required about three days for a team to make a trip from the mountains and return with their side meat, wheat, corn and oats in exchange for the lumber.

The firm had a number of German customers from the valley and from the hills beyond Buckhorn who could not speak any English. Both members of the firm could converse in German. I had been raised in a half German way but when it came to the names of many articles in a store it was all "Greek" to me. For instance, one old lady said to me "Het yerl crop un blow hulse." Of course I called for an interpreter, and learned the old lady was in the coloring business and wanted "madder and logwood." However, I soon caught on to the wants of the Germans and when they would ask to see the "cottoon" I would hand down the calico, which was only old fashioned blue at 25c per yard, with a few pieces of wide English prints at 40c yard. When they would say "Ich will nates" I would get them a spool or skein of thread. In all my clerkship I never was so badly sold as the Englishman who took a trip to Amsterdam, the great German city. He strolled around the great shipping port and came to where a very large ship was being unloaded of salt, &c. After admiring its size, he ventured to ask one of the men who the owner was. The man looked at him and said "Ich connet fur steigh," he said within himself he must be rich to own a ship and cargo like that. He resumed his walk through one of the streets and came to a fine mansion, looked around it, and ventured again to ask one of the servants who was the owner and occupant of it, the servant answering him "Ich connet fur steigh." Well again he repeated within himself, there is no good reason why he should not own a great ship and cargo if he can sustain a mansion like this. The next day interesting himself again by walking through another street he saw a fine equipped and gorgeous funeral procession coming with carriages and footmen. He stepped aside and as they were passing ventured to ask a shopman what the man's name was who was being carried to the cemetry. His answer was "Ich connet fur steigh," he said to himself, after all the riches of this man "Mr. Ich connet fur steigh" who was the owner of this large ship and its cargo and that fine mansion, he must die. After returning to his English home he discovered to his chagrin that "Ich connet fur steigh" was "I cannot understand you."

I began pretty soon to take an interest in the town and as I made monthly visits to Catawissa to see my mother would give them the reports of business, &c. Before my second visit, I decided to make a report of the number of brick buildings. I began on the north side of Main street; the first was Wm. Ritter's, now the part owned by Amos Buckalew; across the street George Weaver's dwelling, now occupied by Mr. Hartley; up corner Main and Market Eyer & Hefley, owned by Jacob Eyer; around on Market street was Wm. Neal's, and from there to the Rev. George Drake's home as it was then called, then occupied by Thomas Painter Esq., afterward torn down and rebuilt and now owned by Wm. Chrisman, myself being the f

tenant; down Market street to McKelvy's corner, the store building had been completed a year or so before; next John K. Grotz's brick residence with a frame saddler shop adjoining; farther on Thos. Willits' residence with an annex for a hatter shop, where I went and had my head measured for a hat. Before that we boys wore caps. He made soft hats and the high stiff hats, black or white, for gentry as they were called. The high white hat they said was only for gamblers and pick-pockets. When a man was seen with a white hat the people were told to keep their hands on their pocket books. Passing the Court House lot only a small watch shop was seen, the balance being in cow pasture; then came Wm. Robison's brick hotel with old frame attached, occupied by George W. Abbott; next in my count was the new Episcopal church, where parsonage now stands; farther on the "Forks" hotel, all in the rear was farm land, with excellent pigeon catching grounds above where the Normal Schoo buildings are. Casper Kressler and his brothers were the champion catchers in all this country. Fall and spring pigeons would fly over this place by thousands and were caught in nets with flyers. I have seen them peddled through the town as low as six and eight cents per dozen. Across the way was Daniel Snyder's large brick residence; returning by the south side of Main street was the Gross hotel, now Central; farther down the old brick Exchange, next the Wm. McKelvy residence; over the way John R. Moyer, first brick residence with an old frame on the corner used then as the post office; shoe shop, &c., farther down; Wm. Sloan's first brick residence on Third street, where Dr. Evans' residence is, was the old "Academy." Farther east was Henry Wells' long brick facing Market Square; farther out on the opposite side was Daniel Shives' brick residence now Mrs. A. J. Evans; farther on to the corner of Third and Iron streets, the Maus and Vance brick house; with a big leap I land in Smoke Town (now East street) to the old (then new) Barney Seybert house. He sold it and moved west in a year or two, his family having grown too large for its dimensions. A joke was told behind his back after he had left (only as a joke I think) that he having bought a clean shirt for each of his boys so as they might appear well at their western home, and only when they began distributing the shirts and having one too many began looking around to discover that one of the boys had been lost on the road out.

I have been asked to write in my next some reminiscenses and personalities of some of the older business men and others, also the building of Iron Dale furnace and the Court House. Before I close this letter, I wish to say my count of brick buildings fifty-two years ago was twenty-two (22) and my count today is two hundred and fifty-six (256) and many of them above the average size. There are many more bricks in the buildings below the Reading depot today than were in the whole twenty-two when I came here, and then the place was called McClure's meadow. And what I did not see then, I see now.

Yours, &c.,

I. W. HARTMAN.

From, Columbian
Bloomsburg Pa
Date, July 28. 1898

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE JUDICIARY OF THIS DISTRICT

The following facts concerning the Judges who have presided in the courts of Columbia County since its organization, are gleaned from Freeze's History of Columbia County, and other sources, and may prove of interest at this time.

When this county was formed out of part of Northumberland in 1813, Seth Chapman became the President Judge. He had been appointed Judge of the Northumberland district in 1811, and was a resident of Bucks county when appointed. At that time, and up to 1851. the Judges were appointed by the Governor. While Chapman had not the brilliant talents of many attorneys at the Nor-

thumberland bar, "he was a better Judge than many others we had in Pennsylvania." He continued in office for 20 years, until 1833.

Ellis Lewis of Lewisburg, Union county, was appointed Judge of the Eighth Judicial District comprising the counties of Columbia, Northumberland, Lycoming and Union, in 1833, by Governor Wolfe. He had held the offices of Deputy Attorney General for Lycoming county, member of the legislature, and Attorney General of the state. He was a man of great ability and was selected for the office of President Judge because of this ability, which he had exhibited in numerous ways prior to his elevation to the bench. In 1843 he was appointed Judge of Lancaster county, outside of his district, and in 1851 was elected Justice of the Supreme Court, becoming Chief Justice in 1855. When he came to the bench of this county he was as much a stranger here as though he had come from outside the district, and having had no practice in this county, he was able to preside in all cases himself, without calling on another Judge to sit for him.

In 1843, when Judge Lewis was removed to Lancaster county, Charles G. Donnel was appointed to fill the place, and continued in office for fourteen months, when he died. He resided in Northumberland county, a part of the district. But little seems to be known of him except that he was a lawer of ability, and presided with great dignity. He too came upon the bench of this county with nothing to prevent him from performing all the duties of his office.

At the death of Judge Donnel, in 1844, Governor Porter appointed Joseph B. Anthony of Williamsport, President Judge of the Eighth district, still composed of the four counties above named. Prior to his appointment he was a distinguished lawyer, and had held the office of State Senator one term, congressman two terms, and Judge of the court for the adjustment of the Nicholson claims, all of which he filled with honor to himself, and with satisfaction to the people. He probably never tried a case in this county before he went on the bench.

In 1850 James Pollock was appointed Judge of the Eighth District, then consisting of Northumberland, Montour, Columbia, Lycoming and Sullivan. He resided in Milton. He had held the office of District Attorney, congressman three terms, and was a graduate of Princeton College with the highest honors of his class. He held the office of Judge until 1851, when the amendment to the constitution requiring the election of Judges by the people, came into operation. He declined a nomination, and resumed law practice. In 1854 he was elected Governor and served one term. In 1860 he was appointed by Governer Curtin a member of the Peace Congress, and in 1861 was appointed by President Lincoln, Director of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia.

In 1857 the Eleventh district was formed, and consisted of the counties of Luzerne, Columbia, Wyoming and Sullivan. In October of that year John N. Conyngham of Luzerne county was elected President Judge of the district. He had been President Judge of the Luzerne district since 1839, and when that district was changed, and Columbia, Wyoming and Sullivan added, he was continued in office by the people because he was one of the best Judges the State ever had. So far as this county was concerned it was the same as if it had gone outside of the district, for it got a Judge who had already been upon the bench for twelve years, an upright and able man and one who had had no practice in this county to prevent him from presiding over all cases in court; and one who had no political affiliations or friendships or other influence to bias his judgment. He did not seek the office; it sought him. He presided here, but lived at Wilkes-Barre, until 1856, when the district was again changed, and became the 26th, consisting of Columbia, Wyoming and Sullivan.

Upon the formation of the 26th district, Warren J. Woodward was appointed Judge in June 1856, and in October of the same year was elected for a term of ten years. *He resided in Luzerne County, outside th*

district, when he was brought here as Judge, and was elected without opposition. In October 1861, Judge Woodward was elected President Judge of Berks county, and resigned that office in this district. At the end of ten years he was re-elected, and in 1874 he was elected to the Supreme bench. Of his distinguished ability it is unnecessary to speak here.

In 1861 A. K. Peckham of Wyoming county was appointed by Governor Curtin to serve until the next election.

In 1862 William Elwell, then residing in Towanda, Bradford county, was requested by a committee of the bar of this county to allow the use of his name as a candidate for Judge. He consented, and Mr. Peckham refused to run and Judge Elwell was elected without opposition. In 1872 and again in 1882 he was re-elected without opposition. What his administration was for twenty-six years, it is unnecessary to tell the people of this district.

Neither Conyngham nor Woodward nor Elwell were office seekers. The office sought them, and under their administrations the people of the district knew that even handed justice would be dealt out in the courts. As to whether any of those before them who held the office from within the district, sought the office and got it by political wire-pulling, we cannot say, for we do not know. Conyngham, Woodward and Elwell were the successive President Judges of this district during a period of thirty-six years prior to 1888. Not one of them sought the office. How they presided is a matter of history, and a matter of pride to the State of Pennsylvania.

Prior to 1851 the Judges were appointed by the Governor. From that time they have been elected by the people, and for thirty-six years the Judges of this district were selected on the recommendation of the members of the bar, and it was by the action of the leaders of the bar of those days, M. E. Jackson, Joshua Comley, Edward Baldy, Robert F. Clark, C. R. Buckalew, Col. J. G. Freeze, and other noted lawyers, that the services of distinguished jurists from outside the district were secured for the the bench.

The memory of those who have passed away needs no vindication for such action at this late day. It is to their credit that they stifled any personal ambition that any of them may ha e entertained for judicial honors, for the best interests of the people.

The foregoing are the plain, straight, indisputable facts. Apply them as you will!

ALMEDIA WOMAN IN HOSPITAL

Mrs. Shultz Found Delirious at Williamsport Station; Taken to Hospital

AT POINT OF DEATH

The identity of the woman who was taken to the Williamsport hospital Saturday ta[illegible] was taken ill, was yesterday by hospital authorities. [illegible] Edbert Shultz, [illegible] Almedia, where [illegible] Mrs. Schultz, [illegible] years old, was f[illegible] tel station of th[illegible] road by a train [illegible] been there for [illegible] station could be secu[illegible]

H. D. MANNING DIES AT ALTOONA

Body of Former Town Resident to be Brought Here for Burial

WAS AGED 76 YEARS

H D. Manning, of Altoona, a former resident of town, died Sunday afternoon at 4 30 o'clock at the home of his son, J. W Manning, in Altoona, after an illness with infirmities incident to old age He was aged 76 years, 11 months and 21 days and for the past ten years had lived with his son.

Prior to that he was a resident of Bloomsburg for 20 years, during most of which he was foreman of the wood shop of the School Furnishing Company. He moved here from Pittston. Mr Manning was a member of the [illegible] church of Altoona.

TWO WILLS ARE PROBATED HERE

Estates of Jacob Huber and Mrs. Wolf Given to Relatives

COURT HOUSE NEWS

The will of Jacob Huber, late of Conyngham township, $1 each to Lydia Huber, Mrs. Russel Oakum and Warren Zimmerman grandchildren, $200 and his household goods to his wife and the remainder of his estate to his son William C. Huber, who is named executor. The will was made March 1[illegible] 1926, and was witnessed by J. J. [illegible] McDonald.

Will [illegible]

The will of Mrs. [illegible] Lettie Wolf, late of Bloomsburg, probated, gives $[illegible] to Hazel B. Kline and the remainder of her estate in equal shares to her [illegible]

Oil Tanker Blaze Takes Toll of Thirty-three Lives

(By Pacific & Atlantic)

New Orleans, La., oil tanker fires cost lives. S. S. Silvanus burst in flames after crash, killing 26, many of whom tried to swim in water-filled with flaming oil. The Silvanus at height of blaze.

[illegible] road company had docks and warehouses. Coal, limestone and general supplies received over the canal were taken thence over the company's railroad to the furnaces, and pig iron brought from there to the canal docks, whence it was shipped by boat to various destinations. Much of the furnaces' output was also distributed over the D., L. & W. Railroad.

The sagacious mule—four to six of him hitched to four or five cars, and traveling tandem between the rails—always managed to persuade their train loads to go somewhere

These furnaces seem to have been a great business success after their installation in 1844 and continued to be so for thirty-five or forty years thereafter until ore deposits in the vicinity were, in main exhausted and imported iron ore had to be resorted to.

Ultimately the plant passed into other hands, then gradually fell into disuse, was finally abandoned and later on was torn down, disappearing altogether.

The dam and race, however, are still in use, serving to good purpose in the hands of the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company in producing electricity for Bloomsburg's use.

Early Bloomsburg benefited greatly too from the establishment of an[illegible] soft or dried mud, and as such, affected the scenery very unfavorably. Care of the streets at that time was not a matter of great concern to anybody.

A town pump stood near the middle of Main street between Market and Jefferson; another was at the sidewalk at the old hotel then on the site of the present Hotel Magee; a third one at the Forks Hotel, or the then head of Main street. These pumps for a long time were public institutions, and for many a year were the means of quenching thirst among the few citizens, who had not yet learned any other way to do it. Many original trees grew for a long time, in the earlier days, along the sides of Second or Main street, then as yet sparsely built up.

These furnaces at Irondale and at Bloomsburg, pushed to installation and productive profitable operation by active, virile and competent men of earlier days—but now no more—are certainly outstanding instances of contribution to the growth and welfare of Bloomsburg Where they left off activities, however, other industries had grown to replace them and the town grew on.

(To be continued)

A son has been born [illegible] Mrs. Allen Miller, of Ca[illegible]

[illegible] W Van Horn, who [illegible] rs. The will was [illegible] 1915 and was wit[illegible] Tyrench and J. C. [illegible]

Transfers.

[illegible] to Harry Higgins [illegible] in Bloomsburg.

[illegible] ate to Herman F. [illegible] North Centre.

[illegible] d wife to Samuel [illegible] n Berwick.

[illegible] tate to Leona S [illegible] Fishingcreek.

[illegible] and husband to [illegible] in Fishingcreek

[illegible] illiam C Wenner, [illegible] eek.

[illegible] an and wife to [illegible] l wife, for land [illegible]

[illegible] to Lewis C. [illegible] land in Berwick.

[illegible] William Yasin[illegible] d in Berwick.

[illegible] to J. B. Sterner [illegible] Bloomsburg.

[illegible] nd wife to Seth[illegible] or land in Hem[illegible]

[illegible] wife to James [illegible] Hemlock.

[illegible] and husband to [illegible] land in Bloomsburg.

[illegible] wife to Clyde [illegible]

Berwick.

Peter McCarthy and wife to Charles H Boyer and wife, for land in Centralia.

Minor A. Van Horn to James G. [illegible]rt and wife, for land in Berwick.

Marriage Licenses

Walter Swigart, son of Frank Swigart, of Almedia, and Thereesie Hildebrandt, daughter of Alfred Hildebrandt, of town.

Clifton Allegar, of Benton, and Emma Benjamin, daughter of Harvey Benjamin, of Benton.

William T Hughes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter A Hughes, and Harriet Hill, of Berwick, and Viola M. [illegible]er, daughter of Mrs. Eva Miller, of Millville.

[illegible]eph J. Kempinski, of Nanticoke, and Julia M. Gabselwics, of Berwick.

Commonwealth Costs

M. Flatt, $5; Charles Brink, $37; [illegible]in Kile, $14.50, Slyde dt. Luchs, [illegible]0.

Commissioners' Orders

George A. Confair, road view, $8.50; H. H Yetter, road view, $2 21; [illegible]R. Hower, salary and expense, [illegible]7.33; L. L. Daniels, Least assessment, $150.04; Smith Print Shop, $59; [illegible]P. W. Miller, treasurer farm bureau, $500.

FORMER POWLERVILLE MAN DIES IN CAMBRIDGE, MD.

Word has been received of the death at Cambridge, Md., of Ira Norman Wagner, after an illness of several years. Mr. Wagner lived for some time at Powlerville and moved to Cambridge about thirty-five years ago. He was aged about sixty years old. Three brothers survive as follows: Charles D. Wagner, Nescopeck, F. W. Wagner, of Federalsburg, Md., Eugene L. Wagner, of Mauch Chunk.

The body will be brought to Nescopeck on the 10.19 o'clock Pennsylvania train on Wednesday night and taken to Wilkes-Barre for burial on Thursday afternoon by undertaker Harter.

PRICES this ATTRACTION

CHILDREN
Matinee 15c. Evening 20c
ADULTS
Matinee 35c Evening 50c

SOME GLIMPSES OF EARLY YEARS

Bloomsburg of Years Ago Is Pictured By Paul E. Wirt

IN PAPER TO ROTARY

Speaking before the Bloomsburg Rotary Club, Paul E. Wirt contributed a chapter to the Rotary book in speaking on "Some Glimpses of Early Bloomsburg." Part of it is printed herewith, with the concluding part to be given later.

On March 27, 1772, at a Court of Private Sessions held at Fort Augusta for the great County of Northumberland, it was enacted that the said county, or as much as had been purchased from the Indians, be divided into townships to be known as Penn's Township, Augusta Township, Turbet Township, Buffalo Township, Bald-eagle Township, Muncy Township and Wyoming Township.

The County of Northumberland consisted at the time [illegible] twenty-nine thousa[illegible]

[illegible] aforementioned court was the [illegible] court to be held in the then [illegible] County of Northumberland.

The territory of Columbia County, and that of several other counties, was formerly comprised within three of the townships erected out of Northumberland County in 1772, viz: Augusta, Turbet and Wyoming. Then subsequently, as social or political necessity seemed to require, the whole original area of Northumberland was ultimately divided by Act of Assembly or otherwise into counties as they exist at present.

It may be here mentioned that for many years during the gradual resolution of the Northumberland County then into smaller counties, our neighboring County of Montour did not exist.

On March 22, 1813 Columbia County was created by Act of Assembly out of the territory of Northumberland and the county seat fixed at Danville. Soon after Danville was so designated, an agitation began for removal from Danville to Bloomsburg, the argument of the removal party for so doing being, that having the county seat at Bloomsburg would be more in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Act of Assembly creating Columbia County, that Danville at the lower extremity of the county was not at all near the center of the county territory as provided by the Act, nor near the center of population, that it was inaccessible to the inhabitants of the upper end of the county, compelling them to traverse its whole length to reach their seat of Justice and doing so at much expense and delay.

Nevertheless, Danville being possessed of more astute politicians managed to retain its hold against bitter, persistent and frequent assaults for removal, for a long thirty years.

At last, however, on Febru[illegible] 1845 an Act was [illegible] [illegible] on the question of removal.

In October following, an election was held, voting for or against the removal. The result was [illegible] of 1334 for removal [illegible] against of 4492.

This thirty year's contest over removal, beginning 113 years ago [illegible] bitter throughout and once again [illegible] political odds. It was now [illegible] then citizens of Bloomsburg, determined at whatever cost to have their justice done for their town. This accomplishment is one of the early outstanding ones brought about for the good and growth of Bloomsburg [illegible] public citizens of the day."

Such men as Daniel Snyder, William McKelvy, Charles H. Doebler, and others of that time, leaders in progress and upbuilding, were no less efficient in getting results than efficient leading citizens of today. They should be remembered.

County records were removed from Danville in November, 1847, and the first County Court was held in Bloomsburg in January, 1848.

It is thought that the removal to Bloomsburg established a sort of social antagonism between the towns, finding its echo down to the present day. Put up a well organized base ball team against Danville and see what happens.

Bloomsburg—The Name.

The origin of the name of Bloomsburg cannot so easily be explained. It is said that the name was suggested by certain of the old settlers who had formerly lived at Bloomsburg, New Jersey. Bloom Township was formed from the western part of Briarcreek in 1797, and so named in honor of Samuel Bloom, one of the County Commissioners for Northumberland County at that time.

It is said that when a name for a post office was discussed, some of the citizens protested against the name Oyertown, as the village was then known, notwithstanding their German nationality and respect for the proprietor or land owner, Mr. Oyer.

On the occasion of a fourth of July celebration in the woods where First street, someone, with excellent tact, called for three cheers for Bloomsburg at the instant when patriotic enthusiasm was at its height.

In the excitement of the moment the name made a favorable impression on the popular mind, and the name seems to have been retained.

"It is not a matter of vital importance, but of curious importance, how the name originated."

(Foregoing quoted from "Battle History")

Coming to the beginning of Bloomsburg, the site of the town was of land owned originally by one John Adam Oyer, and laid out in 1802 by his agent, Ludwig Oyer, and known for years as Oyersburg. This was at a time when there were but very few habitations, principally log structures, scattered about the region upon clearings nearby and remote. But a few were clustered about upon the land of Oyer. The attractiveness of the location of Oyersburg, the natural beauty of the spot, its nearness to the the Susquehanna on the south, an-

other smaller Fishing Creek r, the beautiful on the west, d ing into the river impression ess gave Over the would grad substantial town organized te row there, if an particularly te were laid out; about the n as the country tance was b ood for some distance ed. red up and farm-

It is not two project in gotten that Oyer's century and as more than a McClure and rter after James route for Wh in May, 1769, en-pod at the by canoes, slop- and encamp of Fishing Creek Clure liked th Evidently Mc-thereabouts, ks of the country near the mout large tract of land afterward pat he Creek was soon name of "Mc to him under the there he put 's Choice," and was born Jam g cabin, in which while child be lure, Jr., the first the river and hin the forks of McClure soa g Creek.

whose tracts n few neighbors, early settlemen ned his. These tod of comparat e made in a per-with the India quiet and peace tunately died be McClure unfortions were renew Indian depreda- not remain lon His family did river after the heir home on the ing Massacre o rs of the Wyom-

Mrs. McClu 1778.

her husband the absence of stories of Ind alarmed by the [illegible] with ders and deso- [illegible] very air seem-

[illegible] and upon this and float- and a few house friends and ed off down the County. She did safety in Lancas river home until not return to re well over. In Indian troubles Moses Van Camp- her absence Maj a notorious, and on, a son-in-law, ted Indian fight- at least self-colle staunch stockade er, had built a home for its pro- around the McClu as a safe retreat tection and to serv event of Indian for neighbors in [illegible] Fort Mc- attacks. The spot [illegible] ed as Clure stood is at present mar Sus- such by a bronze tablet on th per- quehanna below Bloomsburg by

Reference to the early McClure lod and Indian troubles, succeeded continued settlement of the county around Bloomsburg is made, as indicating the desirableness of this region and as warranting Ludwig Oyer's site for a town.

As far as we can gather from reasonably reliable sources, Ludwig Oyer's Village of Oyerstadtal—later Oyersburg—was laid out by him to embrace First or Rock street, West street, Third street and what is now known as Iron street—the plot comprising thirty-two blocks of three lots each.

The Rev Caleb Hopkins in 1815 laid out a number of lots on East street below Third. Hopkins' Addition contained no houses for a number of years, but his own residence, and his addition was known as Hopkinsville – later Snaketown, then Smoketown.

It is told that there were but two buildings on the Oyer town plot when laid out. The rude log structure of the Protestant Episcopal Church upon a part of the lot of land still occupied by the present Episcopal Church building, and John Chamberlain's log hotel at the corner of [illegible] and Miller [illegible] There was also [illegible] hotel with a log [illegible] on the south side of Second [illegible] below Market.

[illegible] seems to have been [illegible] wide avenue in the [illegible] of the town, beginning [illegible] and extending south-[illegible] on the south side of [illegible] residence, fixing up [illegible] built some years later, [illegible] extending and improving Market street, still [illegible] residence was removed and the town began importance southward.

[illegible] immigration, Bloomsburg in 1814 had become a considerable village surrounded for miles by a rapidly developing country, cleared fr[illegible]

The population in 1814, [illegible] obtainable record, may be distributed as follows.

[illegible] Weaver lived in a one and a half story log house on Second street between Market and West street. [illegible] lived on the south side of Second street near West; at the forks of Second street and Light Street Road on the south side of Second Street, was a one story log dwelling owned and occupied by Daniel Snyder. Abram Grotz carried on his business as a hatter in a small building at Second and Iron streets, and so on until a record of some twelve or fifteen residences are traced out on the town site.

John Chamberlain lived in a frame house on the site of the present Moyer Brothers' drug store. John was a tavern keeper. Casper Christian, remembered as a most jovial host, also kept tavern in a building then on the site of the present "Hotel [illegible] and Conrad Hess was [illegible] keeper in the little [illegible] and West streets [illegible] sprinkling of resid[illegible] In those days there were [illegible] rough roads to travel, and there [illegible] much sickness to ward off.

Then comes Daniel Snyder in about 1825 and builds a real tavern at the head of Second street, at the "forks" and called it the "Forks Hotel," at the forks of the Light Street road and the road to Berwick.

Harvesting was never properly done in those early days without spiritual influence. The country tavern then was quite a social institution, offering to travelers and residents alike charming attributes. As such, they were greatly appreciated. The cost of living in those days was a hundred fold cheaper than our present prohibitive prices. The aroma of those days, coming down to us, as it sometimes does, doubtless casts [illegible] grel in many souls.

It is to be presumed that for a long period the city streets of Oyersburg were not more than the roughest sort of attempts at street building, some of them merely cow paths possibly, upon which the huckleberry or blackberry bush, the scrub oak and the scrub pine encroached, and that Snyder's run—a spring run—then a stream of some volume and activity went scurrying across the whole of Ludwig's site.

Subsequent generations of Bloomsburg's citizens have, at times, found this same Snyder's run something of a nuisance in respect to street building. It is, however, still doing bu[illegible]

ness to some extent beneath our city where it lies hurted and hidden from sight; buried as most things beautiful are, to be but a memory, and that soon over.

While the village grew, there was also a corresponding expansion of village industries, such as blacksmithing, spinning and weaving, lumbering, carpentering, etc. Farming grew and store keeping came along from time to time. Philip Merling is said to have started the first store, others followed.

In 1816 William McKelvy opened the largest store the village had yet known, at the corner of Second and Market streets on the site now occupied by the "First National Bank." During the following sixty years, Mr. McKelvy was prominently identified with the business interests of Bloomsburg.

In 1835 John Moyer, with a small capital, inaugurated the drug business, which has expanded through his sons and grandsons to its present proportions.

Tanneries were early established; one by Daniel Snyder and another by Philip Christian; one on the north side of Second street, near North street, and the other on Third street opposite the site of the present Catholic church. These tanneries were doubtless established because of the plentiful supply of hides and bark the county afforded at that time.

W[illegible] Scotch Irish character, was another early settler. Mr. Sloan—otherwise known as Major Sloan—was a carpenter and a man of the active aggressive sort, somewhat domineering and irascible. He had his small shop on Market street about where the Lutheran church now stands.

A Yankee named Wells came along one day and told Mr. Sloan that he was a wagon maker. Up to that time, there were no one horse wagons in the region roundabout. Mr. Sloan insisted on having one made, which Wells agreed to do at Sloan's shop. Seasoned oak rails were culled from the farm fence around Sloan's farm on the south side of the town, and the first one horse wagon ever made in Bloomsburg was duly completed. The success was such that soon Sloan's small shop was the scene of great activity, and his wagons were soon in wide demand through this region of Pennsylvania.

This, apparently, was the beginning of the Major's long and successful career as a carriage manufacturer, with organized shops for the work later established on Market street, where the Elks' home now stands.

The reputation of the Sloan carriage was very favorably and widely [illegible] own. The business was, in its time,

one of the most no ed among Bloomsburg's business ac ivities.

Tralton has it [illegible] at the Major was thought to be quit a shrewd citizen in his day. He had a "knack" in handling deals in real estate, and as he was something of a horseman, he could deal in a ve talented way in horses, if occasion required.

In 1831 the Penn Canal was opened and 1858 the fi st train on, D. L. & W. R. R. passed Bloomsburg, both institutions were great additions to progress of the tow

In 1838 the popu lation of Bloomsburg is said to ha e been something over 300, but its importance increased as settlement the surrounding region became greater and more compact. The time was approaching when village history would be past forever.

Houses began to assume marked improvement over the rude log and small frame houses of the earlier days.

McKelvey's store at the southeast corner of Second and Market streets, the "Forks Hotel John Moyer's store, and some few other structures were built with brick. Larger and better finished frame and brick, began to appear on some of the side streets.

Brick was had from kilns that began to find their pl where deposits of clay could be f nd in the then outskirts of the to principally on Snyder's Run be[illegible]

Center street and both sides of Ma[illegible] Third. Hundreds [illegible] brick have been us[illegible] upbuilding from c[illegible] southern side of [illegible] of clay pits and k[illegible] disappeared, and t[illegible] filled up and built [illegible] of progress.

As the time follo[illegible] periods, saw-mills [illegible] at various places [illegible] and much of the [illegible] magnificent growt[illegible] lock, oak and ot[illegible] the valley found [illegible] burg, was used [illegible] of it shipped ab[illegible] canal.

A highly impo[illegible] history of Bloom[illegible] know but what [illegible] ant—is the intro[illegible] manufacturing [illegible] days.

In 1822 a fa[illegible] field on Montou[illegible] turned up soil in [illegible] field which seem[illegible] usual. Investiga[illegible] employer and th[illegible] ed to be a goo[illegible] ore

The same gr[illegible]

afterward discovered in large quantities in other hills east of Fishing Creek, close about Bloomsburg.

Mining and hauling this ore to furnaces, long established on the south side of the river, was carried on for nearly twenty years before it was realized by Bloomsburg that the town was being deprived of a great opportunity for advancement.

Then in June, 1829 the Bloomsburg Railroad and Iron Company was incorporated by the Pennsylvania legislature. Leading capitalists back of the enterprise were Joseph Paxton, William McKelvy and others.

Furnaces for the reduction of the ore were planned, but were not completed, however, until the latter part of 1844 because of financial stringency in 1838. These furnaces, built at Irondale, about a mile northward of the town, were, in their day, most complete, having two stacks under one roof.

The plant, for a long period, was supplied with water power from Fishing Creek. A dam of more than usual extent was built, at much expense, a mile or more away, above a rapids up stream, and thence water was diverted through a race to the furnaces below.

A railroad was built from the furnaces, coursing along the bluff, northwest of the town, and thence southwardly to the Pennsylvania Canal near the canal [illegible]

other furnace, the Bloom Fur now disappeare cessful operation

On April 14, 1 and William Ne of the Bloomsbu Company had c blast a single st below Seventh s road.

For many years ably turned out a ous points of co D., L. & W. Rail Pennsylvania Can nections.

This furnace t abundant success, don operations, pri exhausted ore dep burg. This with with others more economically, had couraging and opera

In getting ore t

In getting ore to t period, it was haule wagon loads, drawn horses, from the mi boring hills. These west part, were dra end street for man all weathers.

The street at that gorgeous affair of the a consequence of o[illegible]

commonly known as nace, which has also l after long and suc-

1854 William McKelvy l following the lead g Railroad and Iron mploted and put in ck furnace on a site reet, near the river

pig iron was profit- nd shipped to vari- sumption over the road, and over the al and their con-

o, after years of as forced to aban- ncipally because of sits near Blooms- rado competition favorably located, rown to be dis- tions ceased. the furnace at e furnace at this there in heavy by three or four es in the neigh- loads, for the n through Sec- years, and in

me was not the resent, but as hauling [illegible]

[illegible] from [illegible] tion the railroad officials sent her in the ambulance to the hospital. The fact that in her delirious state she said that her name was Eckert and then again Shultz is explained by the fact that she had been married for only a few years and had not been living with her husband for some time.

She had been employed as a domestic in Williamsport some time ago as well as in Bloomsburg, and Lewisburg. It is believed that when working in Johnstown she was found unsuitable for the work and was given money and told to return home and that it was on the way to Almedia that she became ill and left the train here.

Her family was finally located and advised of her condition although in her delirium the woman had pleaded that they should not be told Daniel Eckert, her father, as well as a brother and his wife, reached Williamsport yesterday afternoon to take charge of the case.

Her condition is reported from the hospital to be extremely critical.

MADE FINE RECOVERY FROM SERIOUS OPERATION

William West, of 441 West street, has returned home from the Bloomsburg Hospital, where he underwent a [illegible] operation, and from [illegible] made a rapid recovery. [illegible] performed by Dr.

and is survived by two sons, [illegible] and Thomas Manning, and a daughter, Ada, all of Altoona.

Funeral services were conducted at Altoona last night, and the body will be brought here this afternoon on the five o'clock Pennsylvania train and taken directly to New Rosemont cemetery where burial will be made.

Ask New Sunbury Bridge

Harrisburg, April 12 (AP)—Filing of an application for incorporation by the Sunbury Inter-County Bridge company was announced today at the state corporation bureau. The company proposes to construct a bridge across the Susquehanna river between Sunbury and Monroe township, Snyder county. Capital stock is given at $10,000 and a Harry Wels is named treasurer of the company. The application was held up pending action by the Public Service Commission on the project.

A protest against granting the charter has been filed by the Sunbury Bridge company, now operating a bridge across the river.

Attended Debate.

A number from town went to Sunbury last evening and attended the inter-town debate in which the winners of last Friday evening's contests competed.

Robert Neff is going to University

two [illegible] Van Horn nd are named ex made Decemb nessed by Ma Harris.

Real

C. S. Fett and wife, fo Elias P. H tions, for la Harry Ba Hummel, fo Elias We Wenner, fo Leona S H G. Teel H. G. T for land i D. W. James L in Main. Alvern Frantz A C sky and Loui and wi How lee El lock. Sel Shan Be Abe burg

o ed on pr of ver lts ere, ard tant sbur is th ducti busin m ha Ridg certai ed very lon wa suppo grade de of